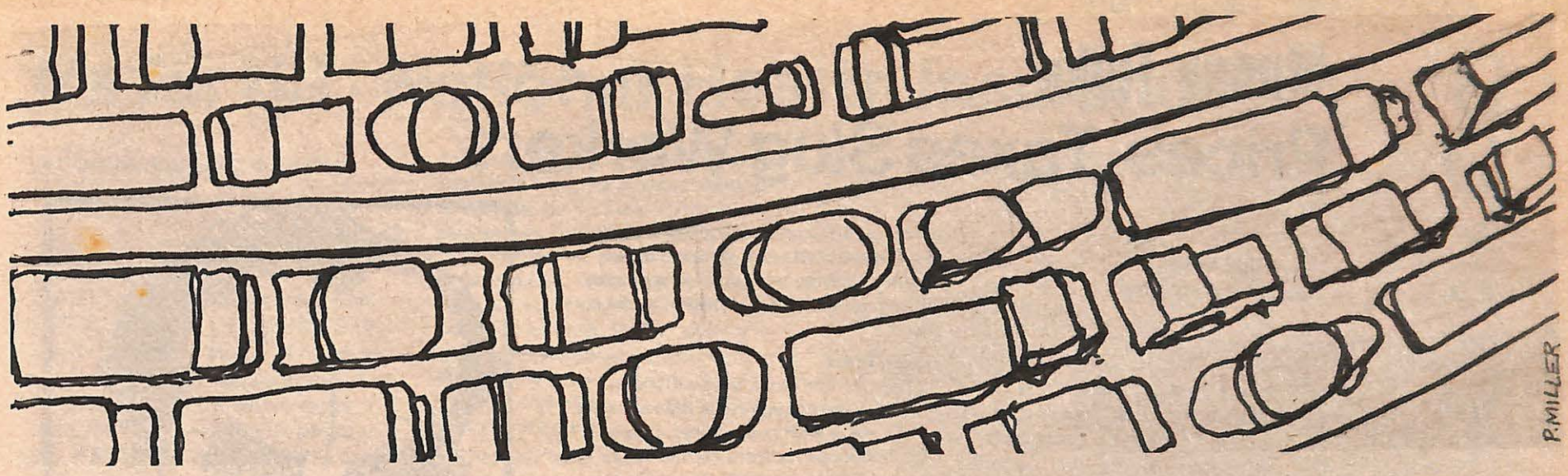

Mass Transit Is The Better Way To Go

AIM Proposal #2

FREE FARES

MORE BUSES AND TRAINS

FASTER SERVICE

What's wrong with this picture? On one side is a six-lane highway covered by six lanes of careening automobiles and surrounded by the deadly mist of exhaust fumes. Inside each car a man or woman crouches behind the steering wheel, waiting silently for a break in the traffic. On the other side is a pair of railroad tracks. Occasionally a train speeds by--its passengers are sleeping, relaxing, reading, talking or playing cards. They are going to the same place as the people behind the steering wheels, but they will get there sooner, more relaxed and with cleaner lungs.

So what's wrong with this picutre? The main thing wrong is that it's only a picture! Most Americans have only one route they can take--the private car. Trains and buses are just too slow, too expensive, too infrequent, or too dirty--if, indeed, they run at all. If, on the other hand, there were fast, cheap, efficient mass transit, many of us would gladly leave our cars behind. And many others of us, who have no cars at all, would suddenly find it much easier to get a job, or simply get around.

See **PROPOSAL**, *page 6*

MODERN TIMES

New Haven 20¢

Vol. IV, No. 17 "What you do is news!" Call 562-2510 February 1–14, 1974

Labor Council Says: *Impeach with Honor!*

by Modern Times Staff

The Greater New Haven Central Labor Council has adopted a resolution requesting Congressman Robert N. Giaimo to support impeachment proceedings against President Nixon in the House of Representatives. The Council has appointed a Committee to coordinate labor's impeachment efforts in the Greater New Haven area.

The Council's statement said: Richard M. Nixon must be impeached--now--because:

He has caused an erosion of public confidence in our democratic system of government.

He instituted in the name of national security a plan which violated civil liberties through domestic political surveillance, espionage, wiretapping, burglary, eavesdripping, opening of mail, and military spying on civilians.

He created a special and personal secret police, answerable only to the White House, to operate totally outside the constraints of law.

He and his subordinates interfered with the freedom of the press--which our Constitution guarantees--by means of wiretaps, FBI investigations, and threats of punitive action.

He secretly recorded conversations in his office without advising participants in those conversations that they were being recorded. He then sought to deny the evidence on those tapes to the courts.

He has used the office of the Presidency to attempt to put himself above the law.

He has, by his actions and through the actions of his subordinates--for which he has accepted responsibility--brought dishonor on the office of the Presidency.

Until Richard Nixon is removed from office, we will not be able to get Watergate behind us. We will not be able to proceed with sober and constructive solutions to our economic and social problems at home or to the dangers of war in the world.

Others Adopted Similar Resolutions

Within the last few weeks all central labor councils in the State of Connecticut have adopted similar resolutions. In addition, the officers of the State Labor Council have visited Connecticut Congressional Representatives urging their support for impeachment.

The New Haven Council's committee coordinating impeachment efforts is considering mass leafleting with AFL-CIO literature as well as possible labor demonstrations.

The committee is chaired by Bill Morico, Local 1199 Drug and Hospital Workers, whose own local has taken a pro-impeachment stand. Other members are Ted Turek, Local 609 International Association of Machinists, which has also adopted an impeachment resolution, John Wilhelm, Local 217 Hotel and Restaurant Employees, Mary Macey, Local 47 International Typographical Union, and Martha Martinez of the United Farm Workers.

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Brain Damaged Child Is Helped

courtesy of Jane Dubuque

Laurene Guiguere, whose mother has long sought help for her, has recently become the recipient of a Rotary Club scholarship. For an account of how this came about, see the article written by a friend on page 6.

BOYCOTT GRAPES & LETTUCE

Money Talks
Prices, Taxes Slug Workers

by Rick Wolff
Modern Times Staff

January is the month when the statistics for last year flow out of Washington. Since this column is about the economy, now is a good time to sum up the key facts about 1973 and suggest what we can expect in 1974.

Item 1. The average prices charged to consumers rose 8.8 per cent during 1973, according to the U.S. Department of Labor. That is the highest rise in one year since 1947.

Item 2. Some important goods that take big chunks out of working people's wages rose much higher in price. Meat, poultry and fish rose 26.4%; fuel oil and coal rose 44.7%; cereals and bakery products rose 28.2%.

Item 3. Such higher prices plus increased Social Security deductions from wages meant that: IN DECEMBER, 1973, WORKERS COULD AFFORD FEWER GOODS AND SERVICES THAN ONE YEAR BEFORE. The Labor Department figures the average workers' loss at 3 per cent for the year. But for lower paid workers who must spend a higher percentage of their incomes for food, the loss could easily run to 10%.

Higher Oil Prices, Government Talk

Item 4. The most terrifying statistic comes next. The rise of oil and gas prices means that every factory and office has higher heating bills, so they will raise the prices of whatever they sell. The trucks, trains and planes that bring goods to our stores have higher fuel bills, so they will raise the prices of their services, and that will raise the prices of everything we buy, too. Odds are better than 50 to 1 that 1974 will find prices rising faster than in 1973.

Item 5. So far nothing is being done about the scandal of zooming oil and gas prices. Some Senators – especially those running for re-election next Fall – talk tough. But so far it's just talk. Nixon's "windfall profits tax" is a fraud. Here is how it "works". It does not reduce or freeze prices of oil or gas. It only taxes *some* oil company profits, and – get this – it returns the collected taxes to the oil company if the company promises to invest the returned taxes in new oil wells or other "energy projects." The profits from those projects will belong to the companies.

Unfair Taxes

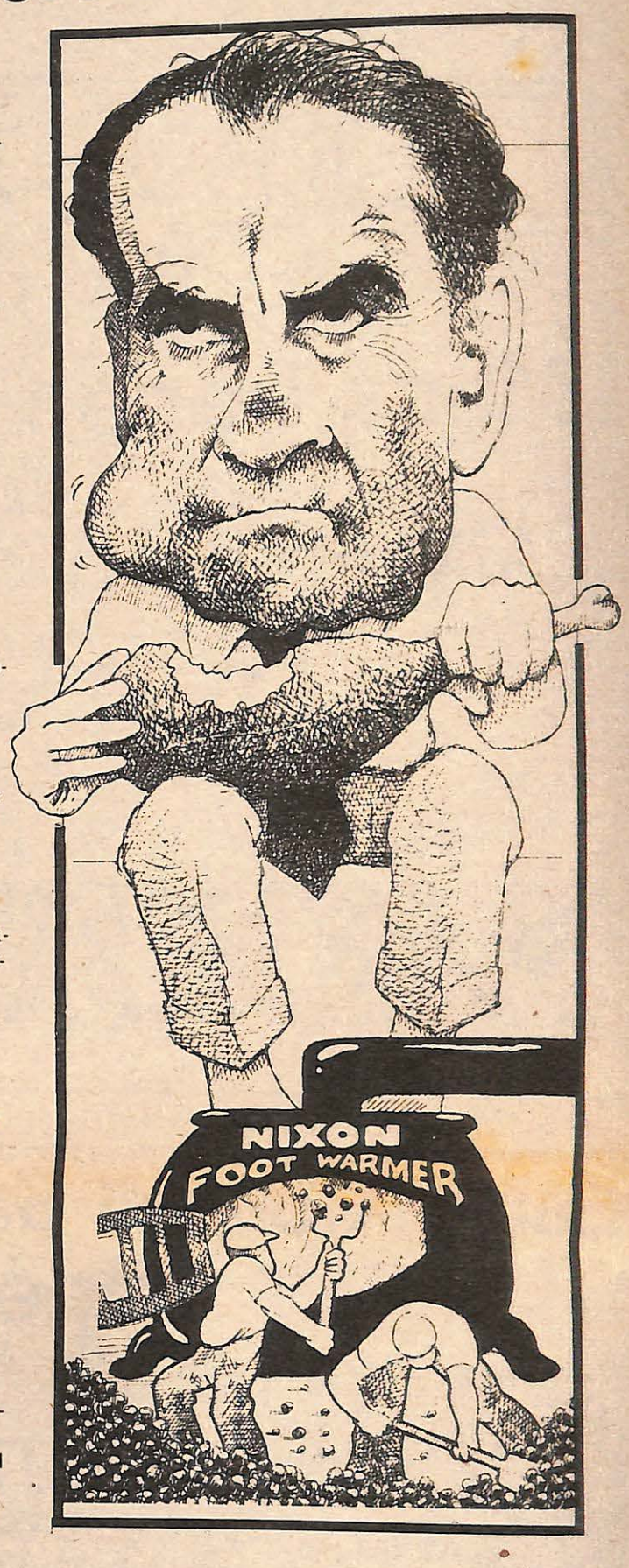
Item 6. For those workers who in some way get enough extra money wages to keep pace with rising prices, they will find themselves hit from another side. The problem is the way the U.S. income tax works. The more money you earn (even if you can't buy any more with it) the bigger the chunk taken out by the income tax. Take 2 examples, offered by a group called Tax Analysts and Advocates: in 1972, a family of four with adjusted gross income of $20,000 paid $3,010 in federal income tax (that's 15% of income). In 1973, if that same family's income rose just enough to keep pace with prices, to $22,400, its tax bill would be $3,652 (that's 16.3% of income).

Poorer folk get hit this way too. A family of four at the official "poverty line" in 1972 – that is an income of $4,240 – paid no taxes. The same family in 1973, with just enough extra income to afford the exact same quantity of purchases (that works out to an income of $4,750) would have to pay $67 in income tax.

Workers Cheated

The moral of the story: inflation in America not only lowers the value of workers' wages while boosting corporation profits, it also shifts more money from working people to the government in taxes. When you look at it this way, with the hard facts in front of you, maybe it isn't so hard to figure out why companies and politicians have been "unsuccessful" these past years in preventing the inflation.

Item 7: In this situation, you might expect the Democrats to really go after the Republicans in a bitter battle to put the blame where it belongs: on the business community, the business President and the business Party. But don't bet on it. The latest word out of Washington is about a *joint* meeting of the Democratic and Republican National Committees "to discuss ways to finance their presidential nominating conventions." They set up a *joint* committee to "investigate novel money-raising ideas." With the Parties so palsy-walsy, isn't that just another reason for a political party of and for working people to grow now in this country?



Making Jobs Safer

That Machine You Run Can Grind More Than Metal

by Connecticut Occupational Health and Safety Project

A familiar sight in workplaces are signs congrantulating workers on their low rate of reported accidents and posters urging "Safety First." Although it is clearly important for workers to look out for their own safety and that of people around them, primary responsibility for safety rests with employers. The U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has recognized this basic fact by focusing its safety standards on the creation of safe working environments and safe design of machinery and tools in the workplace.

While unsafe conditions affect almost everyone who works, safety hazards vary from industry to industry and plant to plant. Federal standards are useful only if they help workers to analyze and improve conditions in their own workplaces. This article will discuss the standards for machines and power tools, construction sites, and general safety problems. These are examples of areas in which OSHA has made rules; they are not the only possible safety standards.

General Rule

The most general rule regarding machines requires that all machines be equipped with one or more guarding devices to protect the operator and other workers in the machine area from hazards associated with the operation of the machine. These hazards include rotating parts, flying chips and sparks. The operator of each machine must be protected so that no part of his or her body is in a danger zone during the operating cycle.

These standards are broad enough that any worker who feels that the machinery he or she operates is unsafe has grounds to support a complaint. OSHA also provides very specific standards for some types of machinery, although others are included only under the general rules. Detailed requirements exist for the construction of woodworking, cooperage, and abrasive wheel machinery. For example, the standards cover such topics as safety devices for all types of saws, and specifications for the design of guards on different varieties of abrasive wheels.

A recent modification in the standards for mechanical power presses requires that that--as of August 31, 1974--all dies must be constructed so as to eliminate the need for operators to place their hands or fingers within the point of operation. It requires employers to train personnel in power press maintenance, and to instruct operators in safe methods of work. Employers must also keep records of periodic inspections and maintenance work performed on these machines. These regulations will be very helpful to power press operators, if they are followed, but unfortunately such tightening of standards occurs infrequently.

Safety Education

Requirements for educating workers in the safe use of equipment should apply to all workplaces, but are given only in the power press standards, and in the regulations regarding welding. OSHA requires that instruction in the use of all welding, cutting, and brazing equipment be readily available to workers.

OSHA standards also hold employers responsible for the safe condition of all hand-held tools and equipment used by workers, including items that workers may furnish themselves. Finally, every employer is required to keep a log of all injuries that occur in the workplace. Thus, if a workplace is suspected to be hazardous, documentary evidence to prove the accident rate should exist.

Rx for US: National Health Insurance

by Connecticut State Council of Machinists

The Semi-Annual Conference of the Connecticut State Council of Machinists was held Saturday and Sunday, January 19 and 20, 1974, at the Park Plaza Hotel. Theodore J. Turek, Recording Secretary of Victory Lodge 609 which represents Olin bargaining unit employees, has been appointed by Floyd E. Smith, International President of the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers as "coordinator" for handling National Health Security Campaign in the Lodge. He discussed the National Health bills currently before the Senate. The following is a summary of Turek's analysis.

National Health Insurance has been a goal of the trade union movement for more than 30 years. Its roots are the same as the founding principles of organized labor--a concern for the welfare of all Americans. That long worked-for goal could soon become a reality. Congress is now considering several national health insurance proposals. Enactment of a health bill by this Congress is possible.

The trade union movement has united behind one proposal--Health Security--the bill introduced by Senator Edward M. Kennedy in the Senate and by Representatives Martha W. Griffiths and James C. Corman in the House. What distinguishes Health Security from the other proposals is that it is a true health program. It will control costs. It will provide quality medical care for all Americans. It will reform the system of providing health care and develop enough facilities to ensure that all Americans get the care they need.

There are other programs which claim to be "national health insurance." Do not be fooled--they are not. When President Nixon, the American Medical Association and the private insurance can say the words "national health insurance"--as they all do--without gagging, then it is clear we are not all using the same language. What they mean by national health insurance is more of the same. By contrast, Health Security is more than an insurance policy written by the Government. It is more than a different way of paying medical bills. It is a health program.

Why Health Security?

Everyone who has ever paid a doctor or hospital bill--or tried to see a doctor on a weekend--or paid soaring insurance premiums--or watched insurance "loopholes" strip a family budget--or sat on a bargaining committee trying to get better insurance coverage for union members--all these people know there is a health care crisis. This crisis can be expressed in terms of high costs.

The United States spends more on health care--83.4 billion dollars in 1972--than any other modern industrialized country. In return, we rank: 15th in death of infants during the first year of life. If our infant mortality rate had been as low as that of Japan or Sweden, nearly 25,000 fewer American babies would have died last year. We are 27th in life expectancy for males; in other words, our men would have a better chance of living longer if they lived in 26 other countries. And the health of those living in poverty is much worse.

There are those who say the United States cannot afford national health insurance, in terms of dollars. We can because it will save us money. Health Security can do this because it will take the money that we already spend in a fragmented and wasteful system and spend it on an organized system that will deliver health to everybody.

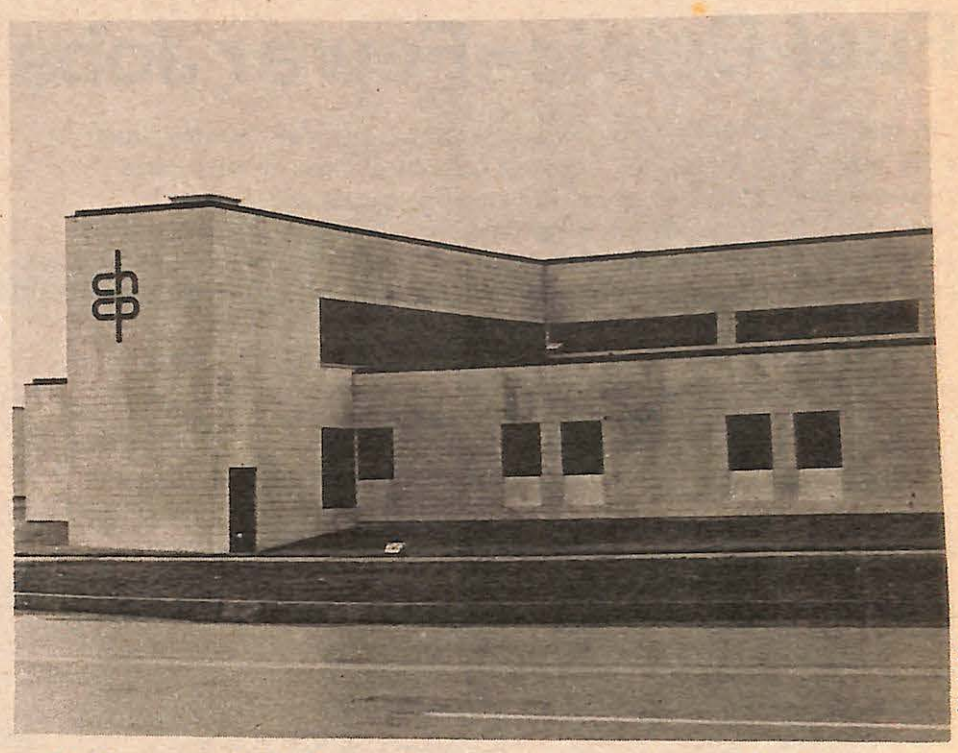
Cheaper in the Long Run

In place of health insurance premiums and the Medicare tax paid now, workers would pay one percent of their income up to $15000 for Health Security--that is a maximum of $150 a year. For this you would get: all doctor and hospital bills paid in full; dental care for your children up to age 15; mental health care; specialist services paid in full; all preventive care paid in full.

You would get no bills. Health Security would pay the bill. There would be no deductibles, no coinsurance, no waiting periods, no exclusions for pre-existing conditions. And, your benefits can never be cancelled. This coverage would be available to you and your family at the outset--not just at age 65 as under Medicare.

You would be covered whether you were working, retired, or unemployed. Employers would also pay a tax--3.5 percent--for their employees. Unions could negotiate to have employers pay the workers' tax as well.

Unions have worked hard to improve the health of their members through union clinics, health and welfare benefits and the like. At every collective bargaining session we have to give more away in wages and other benefits to try and keep good quality health insurance. The battle gets tougher every year. And, while we had some successes for our own people, there are many in the United States who have no health insurance. And that is what Health Security is all about. Good health care is *a right of all Americans--and now is the time when we can do something about it.*

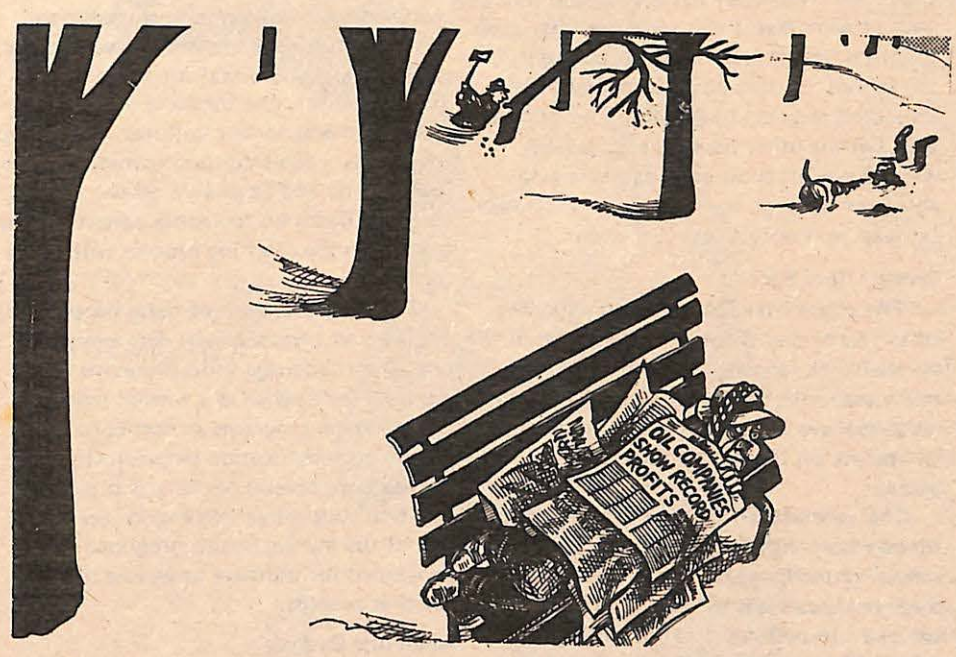


Nick Heyer

The Community Health Center, shown above, has come to symbolize for many New Haveners what quality health care is all about. It could easily serve as a model for a nationally sponsored health program: it's comprehensive, efficient, and above all, not in the business of making money.

Brass Tacks

System Beyond Belief



by Matt Borenstein
Modern Times Staff

I never believed in the energy crisis. I also didn't believe in the beef shortage last summer.

Every evening on the television news I see and hear reports of how difficult it is to buy gasoline. I haven't had a problem yet getting gas for my car in New Haven except that the price has shot way up. Three months ago I could buy gas from an independent dealer for 33 cents a gallon. Now I'm lucky if I can pay 46 cents a gallon. In other words, the price of a "fill-up" has gone from $5 to $7.

Fantasies

The current oil scandal (I prefer oil scandal to energy crisis) brings to mind a fantasy of the government announcing a huge food shortage for the winter. Secretary of Agriculture Earl Butz would announce that the huge food conglomerates cannot produce

See **SYSTEM**, *page page 7*

Labor Notes

The Bakery and Confectionery Workers joined management in a warning that rapidly rising exports of wheat could so deplete domestic supplies as to force the price of a loaf of bread to record levels.

B&C President Daniel E. Conway told a Washington, D.C. press conference union records show that between 8,000 and 10,000 jobs have been eliminated in the last 15 months.

"With what we see in the future, unless there is some handle put on this, and these exports are restricted and held to a minimum, or at least held up for a while until we get on an adequate supply of wheat for our industry, that number is going to be substantially increased," Conway said.

"To those people, it's not going to be a question of whether bread is $1 a loaf. It's a question of whether they're going to have the dollar to buy it with."

President Nixon served notice that he will continue to impound funds voted by Congress to clean up the nation's waterways.

Over the past two years, Nixon has refused to allocate $6 billion of the $11 billion Congress authorized for grants to cities and states to build sewage treatment plants and related facilities.

His latest move is a directive to the Environmental Protection Agency to allocate only $4 billion of the $7 billion authorized for the fiscal year starting next July.

On Tuesday February 5, the important new film "The People vs. Willie Farah" will have its Connecticut premiere at the Park Plaza Hotel in New Haven. The film documents graphically and honestly the struggle for justice now being waged by members of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America against the Farah Manufacturing Company of El Paso, Texas.

The showing of this unvarnished and moving film will mark the beginning of the 1974 Boycott campaign in Connecticut. February 5 will be the first day of a concerted drive by organized labor, student groups the clergy and other concerned citizens.

The Farah Struggle is not just a struggle involving labor unions. It involves all people concerned with justice, human dignity and fairness. People committed to these goals should be at the premiere, observe the boycott, and join the picketers outside those Connecticut retail outlets which lack social consciousness.

The movie will be shown at 7:30 pm, February 5, at the Park Plaza Hotel. Refreshments will be served.

Editorial

Fuel Crisis=Fewer Jobs

In case you haven't heard, there is supposed to be an "energy crisis" going around. "Out of gas," "out of business," "out of toilet paper" are common sights these days. But one phrase less widely heard which many workers will soon feel is "Out of Work." Recent Labor Department figures indicate that **175,000 people are out of work directly due to the energy crisis.** More layoffs are expected in the beginning of 1974.

While oil company profits soar, while prices escalate to unbelievable amounts and workers' wages have not risen to meet the leaping prices, there are those Americans who are put out of work and are unable to support themselves and their families.

It seems a blatant scandal that big business is profiting from the "crisis" while those who feel the actual results of the exploitation have no alternative but to slow down to 50 or turn down to 68.

It will be months before this country feels the real squeeze of the "crisis." It will be much longer before these workers get back to work. How long will it be before we put a stop to this inhuman disregard for human life? How long can the people of this country accept such horrid conditions? How long will it be before we see "Out of life" or "Out of health?" At this rate, not very long.

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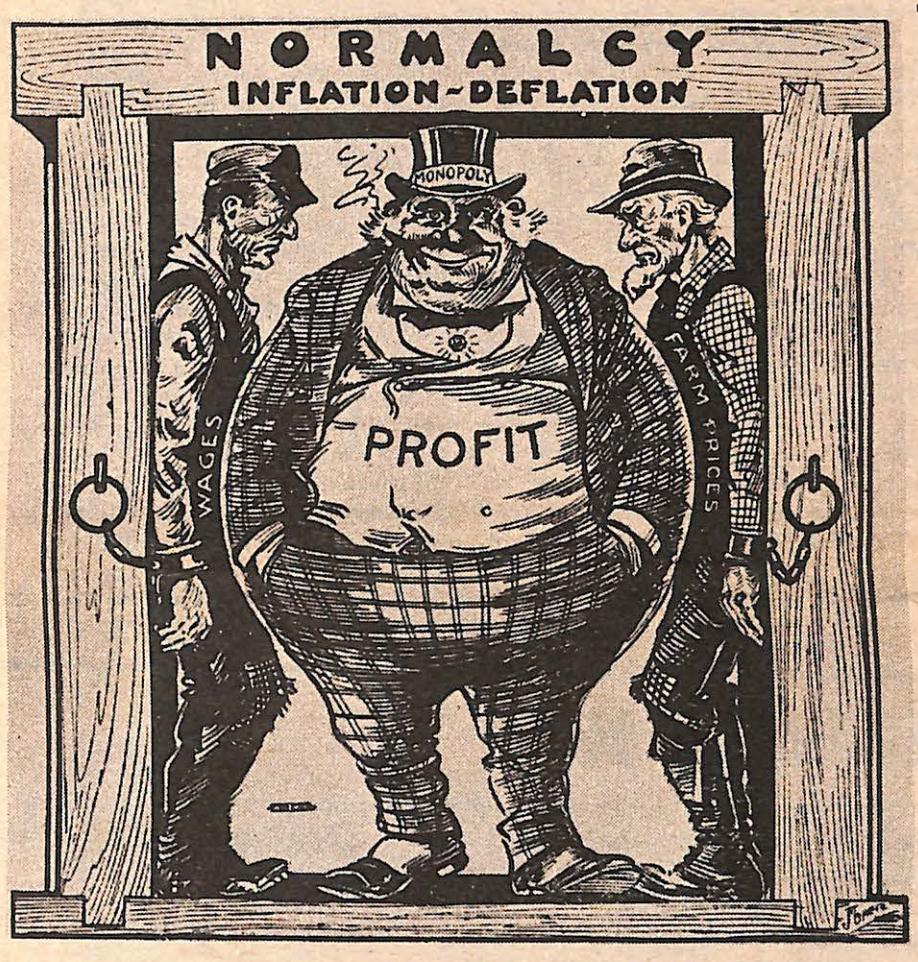
MODERN TIMES is published by the American Independent Movement (AIM) as its political organ. Work on **MODERN TIMES** is done by volunteers, both members and non-members of AIM. The political views of AIM are given in the editorial. We encourage contributions from the New Haven community in the form of articles and letters.

MODERN TIMES is a paper to tell the story of and by the people of New Haven. We don't get this kind of news from profit-making commercial papers. There is no place else in New Haven where the problems of working men and women are told by them instead of their bosses. There is no place else where the problems of employment and education, and housing and health care are told by the people who have to live with them.

This is the richest country in the world. Yet most of the wealth is used only by a few. We must all work together to claim the wealth we all helped to create. There would be no need to strike for paltry raises, waste our resources and labor on missiles and bombs, or waste the lives of our young men in wars like Vietnam. We would produce what we need, not what is profitable.

The American Independent Movement has been working since 1966 to get people together against the vested interests that run New Haven and the whole country. We want everyone to have good housing, good education, child care centers, recreation areas, decent health care, and decent jobs.

STAFF: David Adams, Gary Benenson, Matt Borenstein, Ed Brueler, Ellen Comisso, Vittorio Comisso, Lillian Dimow, Joelle Dominski, Andy Esposito, John Flannelly, Sam Goodwin, Stanley Heller, Liz Henderson, Nick Heyer, Eileen Hoffman, Lynne Karsten, Karl Lechow, Alice Mick, Steve Mick, Ray Milici, Patti Miller, Laurie Nussdorfer, Renee Poirier, Peter O'Connell, Naomi Resnick, Ruth Resnick, Pat Sandacata, Bob Sherry, Dave Spinner, Ken Stokes, Henry Tamarin, Richard Winfield, Karen Wolff, Rick Wolff, Lea Nordlicht.



School Notes

Councils Pinpoint Needs

by Ruth Hein

"Exposure to the World of Work", "Helping Your Child with Reading", "Reality Therapy Program", "Art Goes to Town", "Teaching Parents." These are the titles of some of the proposals submitted by school councils to qualify for the New Haven Foundation grant.

The guidelines by which councils could submit programs were promulgated by the administering committee late in November; proposals had to be filed with Charles Twyman by January 2. This gave councils barely a month (with Christmas, New Year's and school vacation thrown in) to meet and plan. Nevertheless, 22 schools sent in carefully considered, realistic plans for 25 worthwhile activities. (Several submitted alternate programs.)

The guidelines in this case were a great help, being supportive rather than proscriptive. For example, no upper limit was placed on the money to be allocated for each each project; but it was suggested that each proposal cost at least $1 for each pupil in the school. In this way, the guidelines eliminated projects too trivial to be of much use. On the other hand, the guidelines warned against programs that were available now through the school administration (at least in theory.)

Unity: How Far?

The committee also drew up an application form that did away with much of the cumbersome language and structure normally associated with grant proposals. Thus no school would be penalized for inability to operate on the level of bureaucratic word games.

The members of the committee--a majority of whom are themselves associated with school councils--were very concerned that these proposals not be used to put councils in a competitive situation with each other. They had made it very clear that they did not see their function as sitting in judgment, approving one proposal and shooting down another. Initially, the committee hoped to advise and support but was determined not to question a school's decision that the proposal represented a genuine need. As it turned out, however, the sum total for the proposals far exceeds the $15,000 available through the grant. The committee thus finds itself forced to make more substantive decisions. At present, the chief concern seems to be an effort toward lowering the budget on certain proposals rather than refusing them altogether. As time goes on, it will become clearer whether this unavoidable tactic will cause bitterness among councils or will seriously cripple some worthwhile projects.

Proposals

The proposals themselves cover a wide spectrum of needs. Five deal with physical and mental health, including a community based health fair, several guidance programs, and one sex-education project for parents and elementary school pupils. Four would supply creative-arts experiences to school children (one of these provides for upper-grade students to spend time with a an artist "exploring the art process connected with his particular skill.) while four others concentrate on reading and language arts. Five proposals reach out into the community: two are set up to serve the preschool population and three are intended to involve students in the world of work, planning even for "enrichment programs during the summer months." Two address themselves to more realistic teaching of social studies, one focusing on world organization and variant cultures. Two others deal with cross-cultural communication--black/white and Spanish/English. Finally three are designed to enable parents to participate in the teaching process within the school.

Furthermore, each of these proposals operates on several levels. For example, one of the language skills programs has a segment for English as a second language; the guidance programs in particular stress greater communication between teachers and parents; several of the arts projects mention supportive training for teachers; one of the mental-health programs makes provisions for ultimate in-service training in other schools.

Amateurs Succeed

None of these programs was designed by professional educators, sociologists or psychologists. All are the products of parents teachers and principals talking together. The skill, sensitivity and resourcefulness attested to by these proposals are impressive, to say the least. If the New Haven school administration had hired a high-priced consulting firm to study and report on deficiencies in the present system, its summary could not more clearly have pointed to what we need and the most effective ways of fulfilling these needs.

Write On

Orange Street Is Not So Sweet

To the Editors:

The editorial in the January 15 issue of **Modern Times** entitled "Another Snow Job" is not all-wet, just half-soaked. The editorial's general point that the "richer" neighborhoods receive better city services, such as snow plowing, than the "poorer" neighborhoods is right on. The editorial, however, is inaccurate in its description of the Orange Street neighborhood as one with "few people but a lot of money per block."

In actuality the Orange Street area is comprised of business and institutional buildings in its southern half and apartment buildings and former one-family houses converted to apartments in its northern half. This northern half is a densely-populated working class area of Irish, Italian, Polish, and Jewish residents with increasing numbers of elderly, students, and transients. It is by no means a rich neighborhood. The people there have as many problems with unemployment, etc., as the people in Fair Haven do. Has **Modern Times** confused this area with the wealthy East Rock area to the north of it? If Orange Street were plowed better than other streets (which is doubtful), it is probably because it and Whitney Avenue are major access routes connecting the center of New Haven with towns to the north. (For a fuller description of the Orange Street area see Hersey and O'Connell, "Between Orange and State: Neighborhood in a Noose," **Modern Times,** 11/15/70.)

In general, it would seem more in accord with the principles of democratic socialism for **Modern Times** to call for prompt, efficient, and thorough city services (for example, through buying more plows and paying drivers better) in **all** areas rather than to attempt to cut off services to Orange Street, Whitney Avenue, and Westville while giving them to Fair Haven and the Hill. Let's unite working class and progressive middle class people all over the city rather than splitting neighborhood against neighborhood!

Sincerely,

Peter J. O'Connell
409 Orange Street
New Haven, Conn. 05611

Eye On The Board

Execs Maneuver to Cheat City

by Andy Esposito
Modern Times Staff

On January 7, the dullness of a routine session of the Board of Aldermen was shattered when Alderperson Frank Logue (D-18) suggested that the city of New Haven exercise its option, under a 1902 contract, and purchase the New Haven Water Company (NHWC) in 1977.

If the city does acquire the NHWC under provisions of the 1902 contract it will be in the novel position of buying back something it once owned. The city of New Haven was, in fact, the original owner of the NHWC.

What Will the City Get?

However, the city will not be getting the same utility it originally sold. The main reason for buying the NHWC, according to Logue, is its valuable land. Yet, it is questionable how much land will be under direct water company control in 1977.

If past performance, in the area of land management, on the part of the water company, is any guide there won't be very many acres left for the city to take over. At one time the NHWC owned large ta tracts of land in south-central Connecticut. Its holdings stretched from Branford to Bethany.

Over approximately the last twenty years the NHWC has systematically sold off its land to developers. These developers bought the land at modest prices and built apartments and shopping centers. In the process they made a handsome profit. As a result of this practice, the NHWC now has considerably less land under its control then it once did. And the practice is still continuing. Thus, less and less land is available for the city to acquire.

Holding Company Set Up

That's not all. In 1972 the NHWC advanced its president, Charles Wood, $2,000 to set up a holding company, Newatco Inc. which will own a land development company. Wood holds all the capital stock of Newatco in trust for the NHWC.

The formation of Newatco raises an interesting question. Will all the non-watershed land of the NHWC be transferred to Newatco? If this turns out to be the case, the city will receive no usuable non-watershed land if it buys the water company. And the city's main reason for wanting to purchase the NHWC will no longer exist.

Familiar Pattern

Such a scheme, by which a private enterprise bleeds an industry dry and then dumps it back to the public is a very familiar one. The outstanding example of this type of corporate socialism is the Penn Central Railroad (PC).

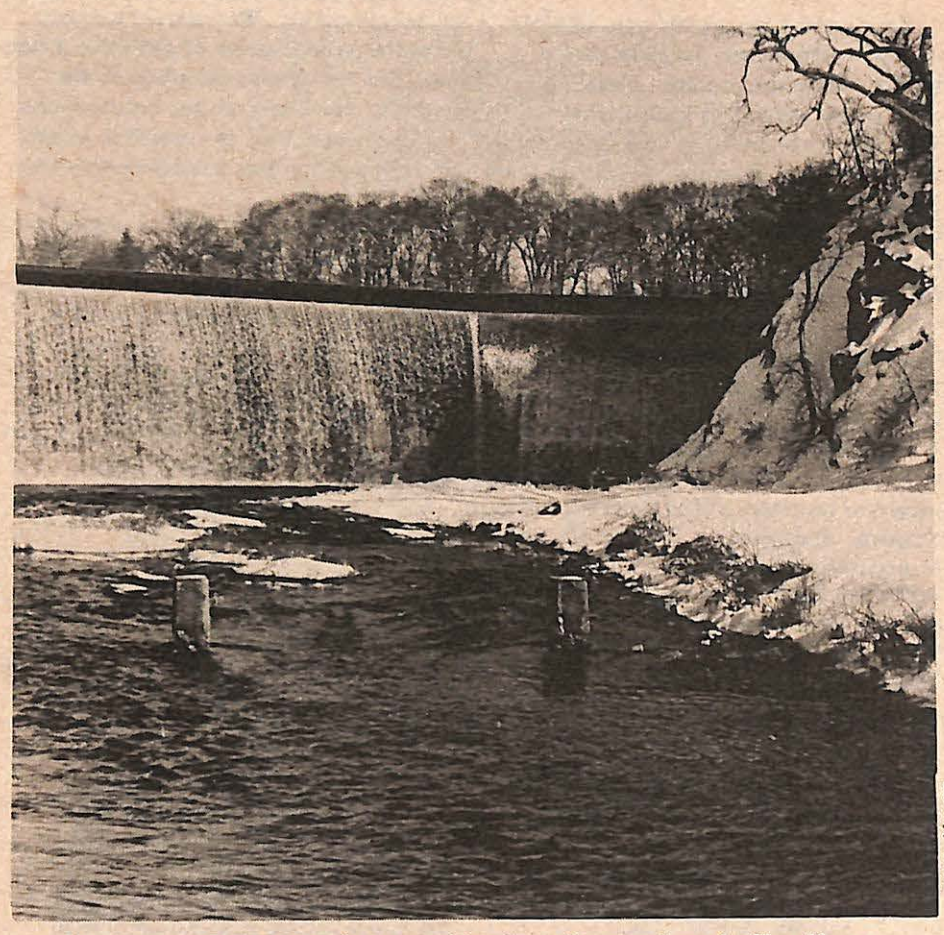
After the major stockholders had sold off most of the land the PC owned, and allowed the passenger cars to run down through lack of repair and replacement; they declared bankruptcy. In effect, what the PC said was: "We have taken all we can out of the railroad. Now you can run it."

Water Company Similar

The NHWC is following in the footsteps of the PC. Only their method is a slight bit more cunning. The water company is not losing money. However, they have been selling off their valuable land. Also, with the formation of Newatco and another subsidiary, the Eli Whitney Development Company, the principal owners of the NHWC clearly intend to stay in the real estate business. It is difficult to believe that they won't try to place all of the usuable NHWC land under the control of Newatco Inc. and sell only the water resevoirs, such as Lake Whitney, to the city.

What the city of New Haven should do is to begin at once, under Connecticut law, to municipalize the NHWC. In this way the possibility of NHWC executives transferring land deeds from the water company to Newatco might be avoided.

Only outright municipalization can prevent the NHWC from taking fiscal advantage of the citizens of New Haven.



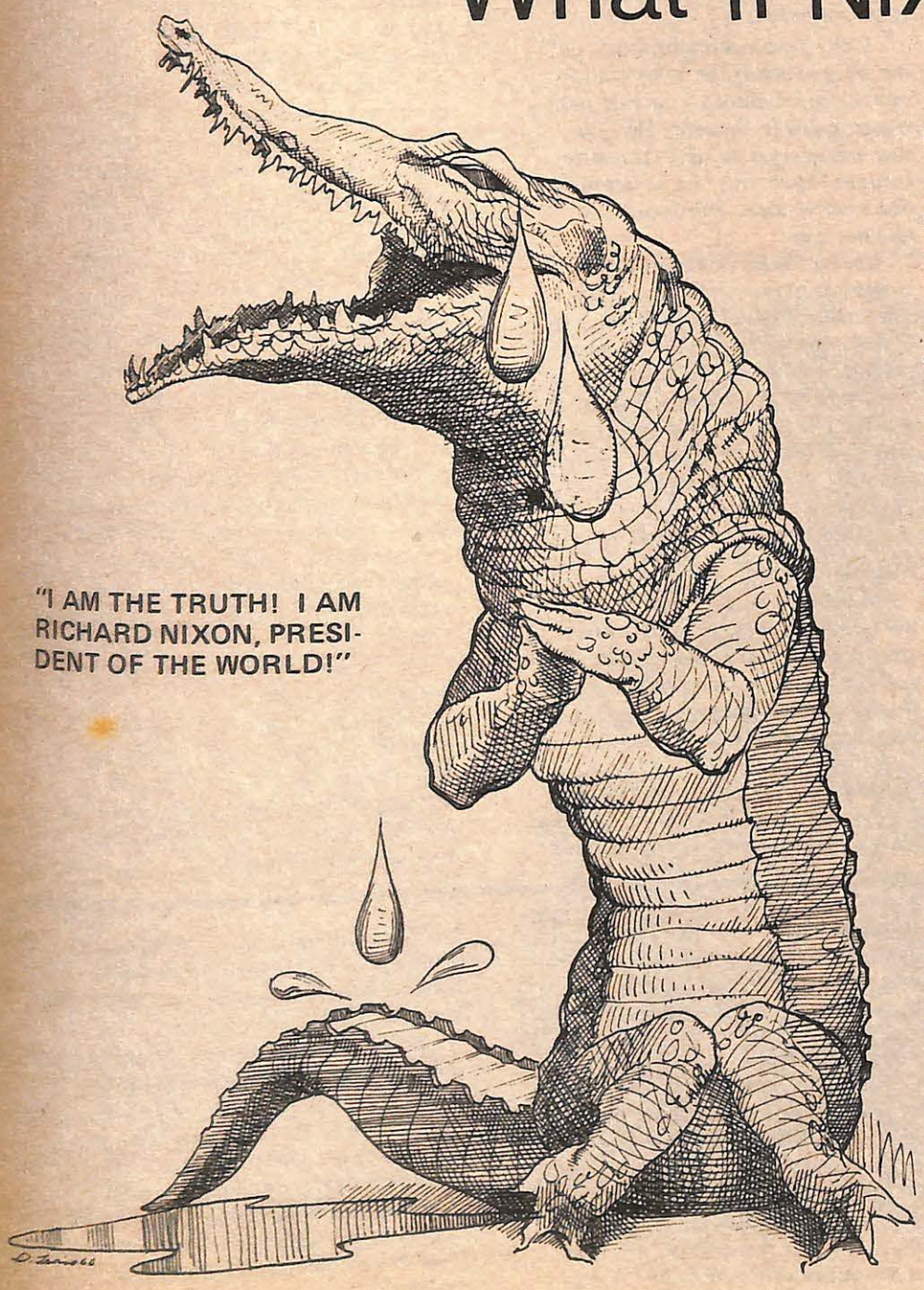
Nick Heyer

If Alderman Frank Logue's proposal is adopted to purchase the New Haven Water Company, landmarks such as this will again become the property of ALL of the people of New Haven instead of being the private domain of a select few major stockholders. The scene is from Whitney Avenue near Armory Street.

"There is something in corruption, which, like a jaundiced eye, transfers the color of itself to the object it looks upon, and sees everything stained and impure." —Thomas Paine

Open Line

What If Nixon Told the Truth ?



by Mike F. Holodnak

I suppose practically everyone has learned by now how to tell when Nixon is lying, which is, as soon as his lips start moving.

But what would happen if someone invented a truth pill and slipped it in his drink just before one of his TV appearances?

Nixon is sitting before the camera, his eyes, suddenly ceasing to be shifty, look into the lens with a steady, determined gaze, and this time when his lips move, we hear: "My fellow Americans. I want to speak to you about the state of our nation. It is perfectly clear to all of us that it is in a mess. And, the way we are going, it will obviously become even messier.

"Just a while ago, in the oval room, I was looking at some statistics. It is apparent to me that, while we have been holding wages down to 5.5% — and in many instances wages have not even reached that level — prices have gone up at an annual rate of 9.7%. Profits have also gone up by 33%, while unemployment rose to 4.9%. But we must remember that if we include all those whose unemployment compensation has run out and the millions of young people who have given up on ever finding a job, that figure would be doubled.

"Purchasing power of workers' wages has declined 3.3%. This means a very serious decline in the standard of living for families struggling to make ends meet. Each family has had to spend 9% more in 1973 than in 1972.

"Now, my fellow Americans, what does 1974 hold in store for us? Well, I'll tell you. If the oil monopolies, the food monopolies, the Auto monopolies, the highway trusts and the Pentegon have their way, unemployment will go much higher and prices will skyrocket out of reach of most working people and the entire country will eventually meet disaster.

"As to the question of Watergate, many people have been asking me whether or not I knew anything about the breakin and the subsequent cover-up. The answer to that is obvious. Anyone who has followed my career knows that I'm a very thorough person — especially in regards to my political campaigns where I run a very tight ship. In fact I've always been more concerned with my own political career than with what happens to this country.

"Of course many of you out there are wondering what prompted me to become so shrewd, crafty and deceitful. Well I'll tell you. It was simply that I was very greedy and I had this very strong urge to make a place for myself in history.

"Now I ask you, given the system we live in, what better way was there to rise to the top than to be loyal and dedicated to the interests of big corporations and the military who are in possession of the most power? I would have gotten absolutely nowhere had I represented the interests of the honest and hard-working people who constituted the overwhelming majority in this country. The reason for this is simply that you people out there just do not have any power.

"You have free elections which certainly are not free. Unless you have the kind of money that the Rockefellers and the Kennedy's have, or unless you're willing to be a loyal servant to big corporations, you may as well forget about running. Money is what rules this country, and only those

See **NIXON**, *page 8*

Proposal

continued from page 1

Trains and buses are the only sensible alternatives to unsafe, gas squandering, fuming private automobiles. Unfortunely, what makes sense to us makes no sense (dollars or cents) for the major corporations or the governments who do their bidding. As a result, mass transit projects are stalled, while highway construction goes full speed ahead. It's time to reverse this pattern. AIM proposes the following program.

Free Fairs, More Buses and Trains, Faster Service. We support the Amalgamated Transit Union's Proposal for fare-free mass transit. Most Interstate higways are toll-free. All streets and sidewalks are certainly free. Buses and trains are just as necessary today as streets. We therefore agree with the bus drivers union that the state should take over the bus company and operate the buses on a fare-free efficient basis. Either the state or the Federal Government should do the same with the Penn Central.

Where Would the Money Come From? The state already pays heavy subsidies to the Connecticut Company and the Penn Central. These companies expect the government to take them over eventually. But in the meantime they are happy to keep on collecting guaranteed profits from the taxpayers pockets. Why should we keep giving them the pleasure of picking our pockets? Our tax monies should go to the benefit of the riders, not the corporations. The money now used for subsidies would go a long way towards paying for fare-free buses and trains.

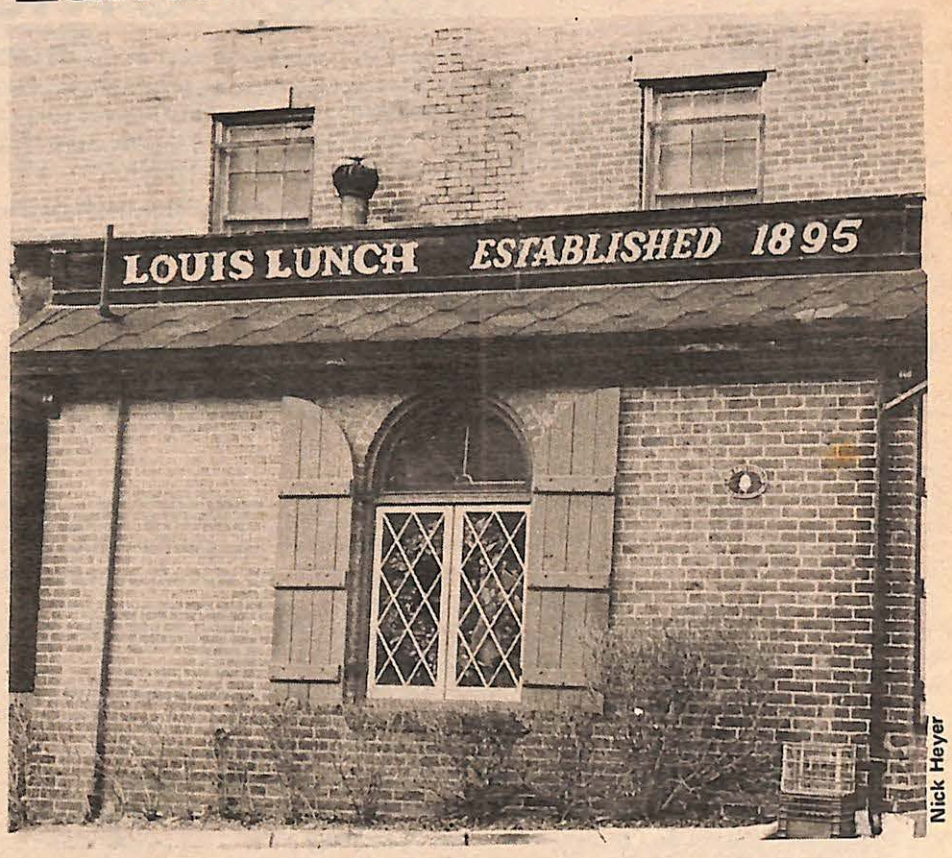
Another source of money could be exisiting highway construction funds. For example, the money earmarked for Route 34 would be much better spent on mass transit. Why build another highway, when there isn't enough gas? The state should use the money for the buses and turn the land over to the city for housing, recreation and schools.

Yet a third way to raise funds for mass transit might be to put a stiff excess profits tax on the oil companies. After all, the oil companies have been some of the biggest supporters of highway construction at the expense of mass transit. Today these same companies stand to profit royally from the gasoline shortages. It's time they had to pay to help clean up some of the mess they have made.

Nick Heyer

The grasshopper bus, although in use for the promotion of downtown business, is the only example of free public transportation in the city. Why not expand this idea to include all forms of public transit?

Landmark to Disappear



Nick Heyer

The word is out that Louie's Lunch, reputedly the inventor of the hamburger, is slated for demolition. The owners are being forced to move to make way for the onslaught of progress. Nevertheless, bumper stickers have begun appearing around town advocating *SAVE LOUIE'S LUNCH.*

New Hope for Brain Damaged

by Jane Dubuque

The late Pearl Buck wrote in her book *Children for Adoption,* "the journey through the birth canal is the most hazardous journey we will ever have to make. Therefore, when a child manages to make it, clear its lungs of mucous, and take its first breath, it is entitled to the best we have to offer."

One of the groups of children to whom we fail to give the best we have is the brain damaged. Statistics tell us that in the U.S. a brain damaged child is born every five minutes. The other incidences of brain damage are enough to stagger the imagination. Accidents, allergies, lack of oxygen and strokes are just a few.

Home Treatment Recommended

Unlike other minorities, the brain damaged never will in any way have the opportunity to alter their lot. From the moment of birth someone else will decide how they will exist for a whole lifetime.

The battle begins with the first breath. What advice will the doctors give to the parents? If the parents decide to put the child into an institution, how will this effect the child's life? Truly, the brain damaged of the world are its most deprived minority.

There are people, who believe that keeping the child in the home is the best therapeutic medicine. They have devised forms of therapy which can be given in the home, by the child's own friends and relatives.

A New Therapy

Doctors Glen and Doman together with Doctors Spitz and Delacato of the Institute for the Achievement of Human Potential in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania have given hope to a large segment of society. The "Doman-Delacato method" of home therapy was born out of the dissatisfaction with the results achieved using massage, whirlpool baths, walking frames, etc. In 1956 analyzing their previous 100 cases they found barely 33 had achieved any advances. Another 33 had stayed at the same level and a shockingly large number, 34, had lost ground.

Dorman and Delacato made another evaluation of brain damaged children who had been kept in the home. With little, or in some cases, no therapy, many children had made gains. These results were studied carefully. If it could be discovered why this was the case, the key to successful therapy could be found.

A chart, the Doman-Delacato Development Profile, was devised. On it the researchers could chart an injured child's progress and guide the course of treatment.

Key Developments

Develpment of the Doman-Delacato method was helped along by the work of Dr. Fay at Temple University. Dr. Fay discovered that destruction of all of the brain cells in an injured area was rare. He suggested the possibility of activating the uninjured cells to take over the work of the dead ones.

Doman and Delacato devised therapy to stimulate the healty cells. Now all they needed were patients. At this point, Dr. Spitz of Children's Hospital in Philadelphia entered the picture.

Children Dr. Spitz was treating were examined and their parents were taught the Doman-Delacato therapeutic method. After two years, analysis of the results showed that not one child had lost ground. In fact, 66 had made advances.

Funding Needed

It's a lot of hard work. However, the two alternatives to home therapy aren't fun. You do little for the child at home; or institutionalize it.

Much money is needed for further research in home care. And in the opinion of this author, it is time to set our priorities straight. If we can allow our tax dollars to be spent killing people it's time to demand at least as much money be put into brain research.

The fact is that brain injured children are going to continue to be born. And well children and adults can get hurt. The methods conventionally employed have failed! Society must properly fund research into the problems of brain damaged children, so more successful methods, like the Doman-Delacato one, can be found.

Rotary is Friend Indeed

Editor's Note: Modern Times is pleased to print this special feature article contributed by one of our readers, Mrs. Jane Dubuque.

By Jane Dubuque

Today it would appear that shortage is the name of the game. Food is in short supply and our dollar buys less at the grocery store. Many of us are asking: "Isn't there a bright spot somewhere?"

Well, there is a bright spot! Let me tell you about her. She is a severely brain damaged four year old named Laureen Giguere. Her mother was advised to institutionalize Laureen. However, Mrs. Giguere had a better idea. She decided to give her love.

Loving a brain damaged child involves lots of heartaches and backaches. Mrs. Giguere enrolled Laureen in the Institute for The Achievement of Human Potential in Philadelphia. The Institute teaches parents how to give the therapy necessary to aid in the development of the total child at home. Parents and children turn to the Institute every two to three months for further treatment.

Progress Apparent

As one can imagine, traveling and the Institute's fees, although reasonable, can be a drain on a family. However, the Gigueres have faithfully continued their program for three years. As a result Laureen can recognize words on a third grade level, feed herself and is on the verge of walking.

Last May, Mrs. Raymond Dubuque herself the mother of a brain-damaged child, was asked to address the New Haven Rotary Club on the subject of "Hope for the Brain Damaged." She agreed to address the Rotary Club and asked if it would consider the possibility of a $500 scholarship for a brain damaged child. Further she hoped the Rotary might adopt the brain damaged in the same way the Lions had adopted the blind.

Scholarship Offered

In October of 1973, Reverend Beck of the Rotary, called Mrs. Dubuque with good news--a scholarship was granted! The grant was confirmed by Mr. Fred Alberg. The only stipulation was that the money be given to someone before the end of October, 1973. Mr. Alberg, Chairman of the Youth Council of the Rotary, asked Mrs. Dubuque to submit the name of a child who could use the scholarship. Who better to submit than Laureen Giguere?

The Giguere's were called by Mrs. Dubuque with the good news. The conversation went something like this: "The Rotary Youth Council has found your baby to be the perfect choice for their scholarship."

Mrs. Giguere's comments were so touching I feel they are worth printing. "You know I really think people are beautiful. I have prayed many times in my life but, frankly, I never expected my prayers to be answered in the form of the Rotary Club. Please tell them how very grateful we all are."

The New Haven Rotary Club showed no shortage of love and caring. A very special thank you to Reverend Beck, Mr. Lincoln, and Mr. Alberg who presented this plea to the Youth Council.

Movie Review

Execs Go Into Action Against JFK

by John Flannelly
Modern Times Staff

Executive Action,
Screenplay by Dalton Trumbo
Directed by David Miller

The assassination of President Kennedy represents one of those rare events in history which one can safely judge as momentous. The Kennedy years, marred with contradictions to be sure, constituted a period of high optimism. It might have been all style, as his critics contend, but at least the style seemed responsive to the yearnings of a people grown tired of the comforts and complacencies of the fifties.

Everything changed when he died. The life was sapped from the civil rights movement. America's military intervention in Southeast Asia assumed the character of an all-out effort to "bring home the coonskin cap," as Johnson used to say. And, the commitment and challenge generated by the Kennedy style was refashioned by America's youth into bitterness and tears. It was as though we were all suddenly living in a different country. Behind the change, however, there remained the question of how and why it had happened.

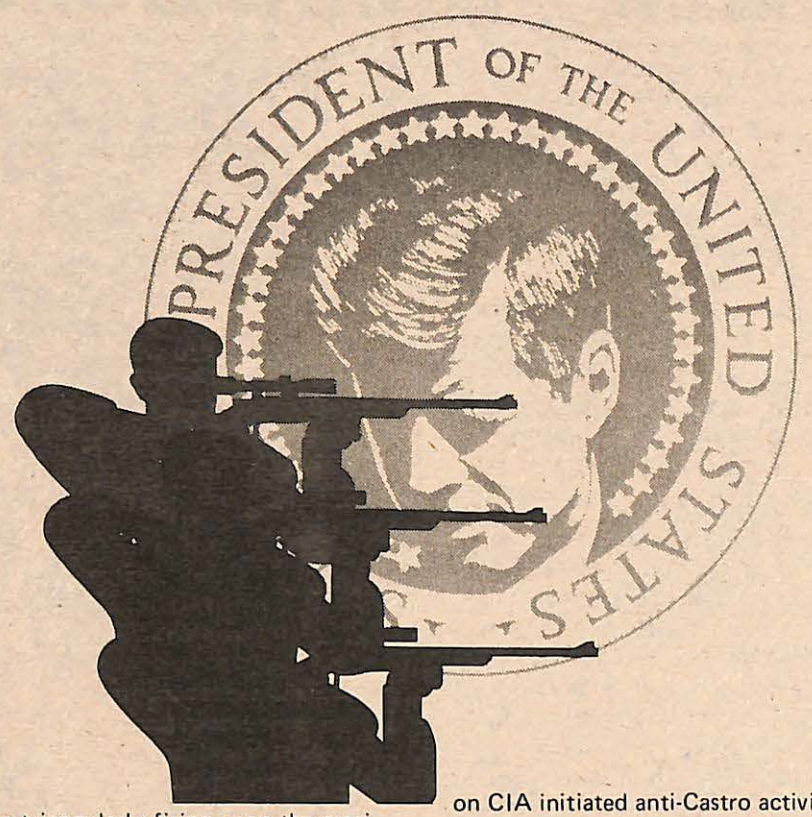
Everyone at first was willing to accept the findings of the Warren Commission. We were naive in those days, too innocent to believe in the existence of official lies, too gullible to discern distortion from truth. But as the sixties exposed the underside of America, and as some of us came to know the true composition of the wealth and power in this country, the specter of a conspiracy became all the more real.

Plot is Now Plausible

In *Executive Action* the commonplace paranoia that we now all accept as being appropriate to the temper of the times is given true legitimacy. The movie is intense stirring, dramatic, but above all, plausible. The idea behind it is a simple one. The New Money, the Southern Rim industrialists, perceiving Kennedy's policies as a concrete threat to the security of the country and to their own interests (the elimination of the oil depletion allowance, for example), arrange for the assassination.

What is most convincing in this is the demonstration that it is totally within the means of such people to engage in a plot of this magnitude with full assurance of success. Unlike political splinter groups, this group knows the ins and outs of government (who's who in the CIA, the FBI, the Secret Service, etc.). It has full access to a wide range of technical skill, and a pool of well-trained (CIA sponsored) commandoes whose dedication is fanatical, and last, but not least, it has an inexhaustible supply of money.

The film portrays Oswald as a dupe, a decoy groomed for his role of patsy without his understanding anything at all about it. He is presented as a FBI informant who, because of his muddled background, is the perfect foil. All of this is done rather persuasively. The assassination itself is dramatized as the work of a team of hired guns, three gunmen triangularly firing upon the presidential motorcade (a consistent interpretation for those who have rejected the single gun theory). This team is backed-up by an escape team—it works.



Conflict

Finally, the film effectively communicates the aura of impending conflict which surrounded Kennedy's last days. The massive civil rights demonstration in August of 1963 shocked the conservative elements of the country; the test ban treaty signed in the same summer was received as a sell-out to communism by the rightwing; Kennedy's clamping down on CIA initiated anti-Castro activities by the Cuban refugee community branded him as a coward; the chaos in the streets of Saigon and Kennedy's refusal to brandish the sword (he is shown in a news clip stating his intention to withdraw a thousand advisors a month—at the time there were 9000 advisors stationed in Vietnam) was interpreted as surrender; and in his American University speech (one of his last) he announced plans to curtail military expenditures and re-order national priorities—that, it is suggested, was too much for the right to take. In short, it was the perfect climax for a rightwing coup. Shades of Chile!

System

Continued from page 3

enough food for the American population this winter. High food prices would immediately double while people crowded into the supermarkets to buy up all they could. The huge food producing corporations and supermarket chains would rake in huge profits and along the way force the government to relax quality and health control standards for food production and distribution.

After the "scare" was over, food prices would remain at very high levels. We would never know whether the food shortage was real because the production and distribution of food, just like oil, is in private hands.

Other Observations

On January 1, 1974 the New Haven Journal Courier carried a front page story (from the Associated Press) which stated that home heating oil reserves in the United States were 15% higher than last year. Stores of gasoline were only 3% below last year's level at this time.

The next day, January 2, I heard that 431 oil company executives contributed five million dollars to Nixon's 1972 re-election campaign.

The government depends (so it says) on the American Petroleum Institute for its information on the oil situation. The American Petroleum Institute is run by the major oil companies. The Petroleum Control Board in the U.S. Department of the Interior is composed of oil executives "on loan" from the major oil companies.

Bypassing Controls

During Nixon's economic Phases, the oil companies didn't request price increases above the allowed limits. To do so, they would have been forced to open their records to the government (which is sort of public). So the oil companies waited until they could announce the "energy crisis." Now the federal government has permitted tremendous price increases for petroleum products, sight unseen. The oil companies got their price increases, maybe three or four times over their wildest dreams, without opening their records to the public.

The last piece of advice on the energy crisis (scandal) comes from the American Medical Association. That's the organization that opposed Medicare, opposes national health insurance, opposes expansion of medical schools and government scholarships for medical students and has lots of money to lobby for these positions. The AMA advises that the best way to avoid colds when you turn the heat down to save fuel is to snuggle. Snuggling, the AMA maintains, not only keeps you warm during the long cold hours, but it is also fun.

The Women's Rape Crisis Counseling Group is organizing a rape hot-line counseling service for rape victims desiring medical, legal and or counseling aid. A planning meeting is scheduled for Feb. 8 at 8 p.m., 215 Park St. A speaker will be present to discuss crisis counseling techniques. Any woman who is interested in working on developing a Women's Rape Crisis Service is invited to attend. For further information, call the Women's Center between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m., 436-0272.

New Haven Community Players (The Company) presents *Luv,* a Broadway comedy hit by Murray Schisgal. Tickets are available from the New Haven Recreation Department. Performances will be on March 16, 17, 22, 23 & 24 at 8:00. Sundays matinees at 2:00. Ticket prices $2.50 at door, $2.25 advance. Mail orders accepted, group rates available.

To Allende

red abstraction on the wall

they killed him in his office
the man the people called
elcompanero presidente
brother presdient
near his desk, near the balcony
where earlier, brave, he
had smiled/ waved at the people
architecture of communication
not command
souvenir gun in his hand
they called him suicide
but his only weapon was
in his heart
the love of the people
beginning bleeding
the doctor
Salvador
erupting ending
up against the cold
concrete wall

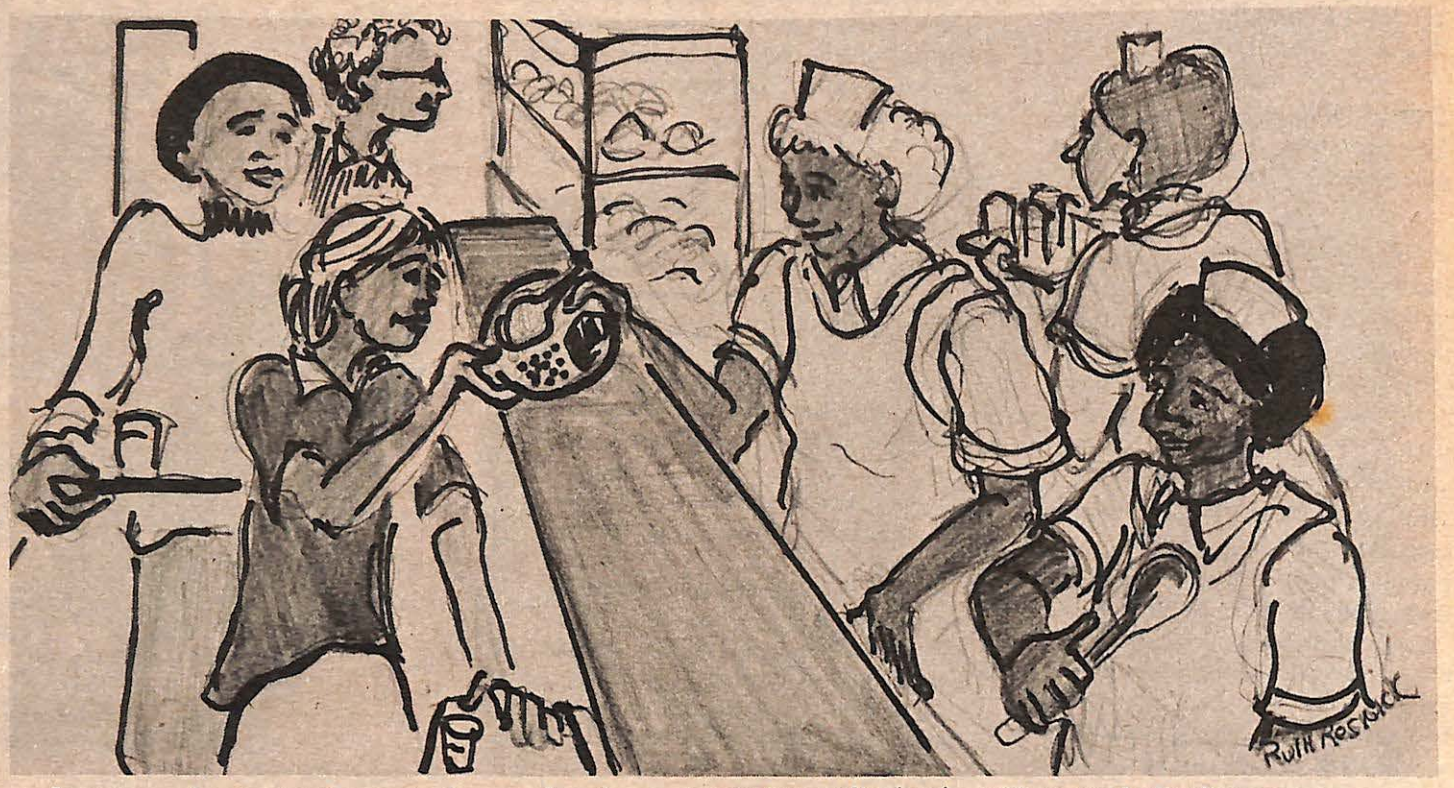
far to the north money changes hands
Friend Richard Nixon at home sups on chili
under the portrait of Lincoln
and it is said that the Rockefellers, ethical Protestants,
have purchased many
of the world's finest works,
incorporating crucifixions.

----Peter J. O'Connell

On The Job

Union Serves Cafeteria Workers

by Modern Times Staff



Jean Olinsky is an employee of the East Haven Cafeteria system. Her classification is "general worker" and the general can't be overstated. She seems to do everything. Last year she helped to get a union into the cafeterias. According to other cafeteria employees, he Jean was the undisputed leader of the women, and all of them gave her special praise.

This past September the East Haven cafeterias converted to the 'satellite system, as have several area school systems. In the satellite set-up, food is prepared and packaged in a main kitchen for shipment to all the other schools in the system.

Jean works at the Middle School, East Haven's main kitchen. Every day between 8 a.m. and 2 p.m., she helps to prepare the daily menu. The women make everything from scratch, including puddings, sauces, pizza and even baked beans. The only store BOUGHT baked goods are subs and Italian bread. "Many of the women have children in school, so we prepare the food here just like we do at home."

Delivery System

Once food is prepared it must be individually packaged for delivery to the other schools. This is done by means of a conveyer belt-type assembly line. The packaged lunches must be prepared one day in advance in order to arrive at the various schools in time for the following day's lunch. According to Jean, the transition to this satellite program seems to have certain drawbacks. One is that if children don't want a particular item, they throw it out, causing much waste. When served individually in each kitchen, they at least *have the option of taking or leaving the item.*

Preparing and packaging thousands of lunches daily may sound like a day's work, but it's only part of what Jean does. When the waves of students pour into the cafeteria, Jean becomes a cashier. Money and tickets must be taken for food, milk, etc. At the end of each day this money must be counted and rolled.

You haven't lived until you've experienced hundreds of exuberant kids coming at you brandishing coins, yelling for what they want, very hungry, and just released from the discipline of the classroom. As one not used to this daily ritual, I must say that it felt somewhat like having to tread water in the middle of the Atlantic Ocean with no boat in sight.

"The kids are all nice" Jean claimed. "Some of them can be wise-guys, but they certainly keep you on your toes." Despite *the confusion, the women really seem to have a good time with the kids.*

More Work

When the students leave, Jean becomes a bookkeeper. The tapes on the cash register must be itemized according to purchasor (teacher, paying student, or free lunch student) and what was purchesed (milk, ice cream, hot lunch, etc.) Incidentally, the tape results must match the amount of money taken it. Upon completion of this part of her job, Jean then orders milk, ice cream and dessert for the following day.

Until quite recently, still another job she had was delivering the day's take to the bank and depositing it.

Jean's job is very demanding but she really likes it. "The women are nice. We have a good time together. There's a good spirit among us. People help each other out. You've got to! We're hopping every minute and if someone gets behind, we pitch in, whether it's to help the baker or wipe dishes. The attitude of the girls is pleasant and we all get along."

Union Affiliation

In May of 1973 the women voted to affiliate with Local 217 of the Hotel and Restaurant Employees Union/AFL-CIO. because, according to Jean, "we'd had it." She spoke at length about her job in terms of everyone's attempt to obtain better wages, working conditions, benefits and more respect.

Approximately six years ago the women had organized themselves into an association, and bargained a five year contract for themselves. "In all fairness, I must say that Mr. Serio (Director of Cafeterias) helped us to form the association. Before that, we had nothing — no sick leave, no holidays and whatever wage increases the Board of Education would give us. Often it was only a nickle. We did not even get equal pay for equal work."

"Even with the association, we were forced by the Board to work during our Christmas vacation in 1972. For that unfair labor practice we had to get a lawyer to represent us. We needed help from somewhere and had no money, so we ended up at Legal Aid. That year we (the general workers) were making $1.95 an hour even with the contract, and this was with many of us having numerous years of service."

"Finally we got in touch with the union." The women had reach' d the point where they would no longer tolerate their ineffectiveness. They asked around in area schools and found out what Local 217 had done. Jean spoke to one manager who "was not too crazy about the Union, but that's probably because she wasn't covered by the contract. We figured Local 217 represented other school cafeterias and was familiar with our problems."

Union Contract

In the old association the women made up their own contract "from bits and pieces of other contracts" they had seen. "The old contract," according to Jean, was so full of loopholes that we could have used it as swiss cheese." As new members of the Union, they received professional help in negotiating a contract, as well as job security and protection. After six months of fighting with the Board a good contract was finally obtained. In a secret ballot election the employees recently ratified it unanimously.

Jean enumerated some of their gains. "We finally got equal pay for equal work. Also pay raises, better holidays and vacations, and now the Board will have to observe our seniority. I'm certainly glad we're in the Union. It's the best thing we ever did. Finally we have someone to turn to. Mr. Serio is in a funny position, because he's between us and the Board, but the Union can get things accomplished. As long as we have to work, we all want pleasant conditions and the rights that are ours."

One thing certainly seems clear. By standing together to demand respect , their rights, and better conditions and wages, the women of the East Haven cafeterias have exploded the myth that they are "just little old ladies in hairnets banging around in the kitchen."

Don't Just Be A Cog In The Wheel

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NIXON

continued from page 5

who have lots of it make all the decisions.

"You also have free speech, but it's useless if you have no power to redress your grievances.

"Also I would like to add that —"

The TV picture suddenly goes blank and an announcer is heard to say, "Due to technical difficulties, etc...."

This kind of candor would obviously be quickly cut off by the TV networks which, like everything else, are controlled by the powerful monopolies

In my opinion, if we want a voice in the destiny of our lives, we all damn well better demand democracy in this country whether the monopolies like it or not